FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS.

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Feature of Issue - CITRUS FRUITS.

CROP PROSPECTS.

WHEAT

Wheat harvests are practically completed in the Northern Hemisphere and generally speaking the weather has been favorable during the harvest season except in Germany. Official estimates and forecasts of production from 25 countries producing in 1923 about 82 per cent of the Northern Hemisphere crop exclusive of Russia and China, show an aggregate production of 2,242,000 bushels compared with 2,500,000 last year or a decrease of 10.3 per cent. This total represents a crop more nearly equal to that harvested in 1922.

Reports received during the week show some changes in relative quantities in specific localities. The September estimate of the Crop Reporting Board showed a crop in this country about 23 million bushels larger than was indicated in the August report and the September Canadian report was 9 million larger than the August forecast. The Dominion Bureau reports the harvest about two weeks late throughout the Prairie Provinces with possibilities for improvement in case weather remains favorable. Drought injury in Alberta has been severe and rains though quite general in August were too late to save the crop. There has been some damage by frost during the past week but the extent cannot be determined as yet. Yields are turning out well in Manitoba but are considerably below average in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Private forecasts of the French crop range between 265 and 312 million bushels compared with a 276 million bushels crop last year. The German crop estimated on the basis of forecasts from Prussia and Bavaria will be about 92 million bushels compared with 106 million last year. The Rumanian crop according to private reports will be only 70 per cent of last year when the harvest amounted to 101 million bushels. Adding these estimates for France, Germany and

CROP PROSPECTS,-CONT'D.

WHEAT,-CONT'D.

Rumania to the total received to date a Northern Hemisphere crop of about 2,700 million bushels is indicated in countries outside of Russia and China. This is about 300 million bushels less than last year. Russian crops are less favorable than last year and the probability is that little, if any, wheat can be exported while China is reported to have a crop only 60 per cent of normal.

RYE

Rye estimates from 17 countries representing about 60 per cent of the crop now indicate a reduction from last year of 16 per cent. The German crop estimated on the basis of forecasts for Prussia and Bavaria will be about 233 million bushels compared with 263 million bushels last year, or a reduction of about 11½ per cent.

BARLEY.

The Northern Hemisphere barley crop is about 5 per cent less than last year judging from estimates received from 24 countries producing nearly 75 per cent of the crop in 1923. The German crop is evidently a little larger than last year based upon estimates for two provinces. The indicated crop is 110 million bushels compared with 108 million bushels in 1923.

OATS

The oat crop is about the same as last year in 21 countries producing 72 per cent of the crop. Decreases are noted in most European countries and Canada, but a 14 per cent increase in the United States offsets the effect of these smaller crops.

CORN, POTATOES AND SUGARBEETS IN HUNGARY.

According to a preliminary report by the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture, the total corn crop for this year is estimated to be 73,385,-367 bushels from an area of 2,469,107 acres, as compared with a production of 49,246,898 bushels from an area of 2,459,127 acres in 1923. The total production of potatoes is estimated to be 62,733,638 bushels from an area of 624,174 acres. These figures show an increase of 28 per cent over last year's potato crop and a decrease in area of 3.4 per cent from last year, when the total area was reported to be 646,012 acres yielding a crop of 49,023,969 bushels of potatoes. The area under sugarbeets is reported to be 161,561 acres with an estimated yield of 1,372,860 short tons as compared with 128,370 acres and a yield of 951,934 short tons in 1923.

GERMAN COTTON CONSUMPTION.

German mill consumption of cotton increased by 34.5 per cent during the half year ended July 31, 1924 over the consumption for the preceding six months period, according to a report of the German Cotton Spinners' Association received by cable from the Berlin office of the United States Department of Agriculture. Consumption of American cotton increased by 36.8 per cent. The total consumption, as well as the consumption of American cotton, for the year ended July 31, however, fell below the figures for any year since the war due to the low consumption of the first six months. Mill stocks on August 1 of American and all kinds were also larger than at the end of the preceding six months period, and larger ~~[illegible]~~ than at the same date last year. ~~[illegible]~~ The figures are based on reports from cotton spinning firms. 87 per cent of the firms reported for the half year ended July 31, 1924, 86 per cent for the period ended January 31, 1924, 87 per cent for the period ended July 31, 1923 and 90 per cent for the period ended January 31, 1923.

Following are the figures on consumption and mill stocks as reported by the Spinners' Association:

REPORTED GERMAN COTTON CONSUMPTION AND MILL STOCKS.
(No estimates made for mills not reporting.)
(Running bales)

Consumption			Mill Stocks		
Half year ending	American	Total	February 1	American	Total
	Bales	Bales		Bales	Bales
Jan. 31, 1921	265,000	393,000	1921	85,000	132,000
1922	406,000	535,000	1922	131,000	185,000
1923	360,000	488,000	1923	60,500	96,000
1924	235,000	336,000	1924	58,000	87,000
			August 1		
July 31, 1921	344,000	457,000	1921	120,000	176,000
1922	421,000	548,000	1922	116,500	176,000
1923	262,000	365,000	1923	52,000	90,000
1924	372,000	513,000	1924	60,000	114,000

THE LIVESTOCK SITUATION ABROAD.

Statistics of the number of cattle, sheep and swine in the seven European countries (a) for which data have been received for the last few months of 1923 and the first six months of 1924 indicate that there has been an increase in the total number of cattle, swine and sheep over the preceding year although pre-war numbers have not yet been reached.

The total number of cattle in the seven countries is estimated at 48,486,000 or an increase of 3 per cent over the preceding year and a decrease of only 4.6 per cent from pre-war numbers. Sheep increased 4.8 per cent this year over last, the number in the seven countries being 65,009,000 or 2.8 per cent less than before the war. Swine showed the greatest increase over last year rising from 31,404,000 to 35,710,000 or 13.7 per cent. This figure is still 11 per cent below pre-war.

The greatest increases in cattle occurred in Roumania and Germany, the increases being respectively 507,000 and 336,000 over the preceding year. Roumania also showed the greatest improvement in the number of sheep, an increase from 12,321,000 to 14,136,000 or 14.7 per cent. Sheep in England increased 7.3 per cent to 14,843,000. Sheep in Spain decreased from 19,377,000 to 18,550,000 or 4.3 per cent. This number, however, is 12.8 per cent above pre-war figures. The most striking increase in swine occurred in England and Wales where the number went over the three million mark for the first time, reaching 3,227,000 or an increase of 23.5 per cent over last year. Germany had an increase of 2,547,000 or 17.3 per cent, raising the number in that country to 17,226,000. This is, however, only 76.4 per cent of the number of swine within the same boundaries of Germany in 1913.

For the countries outside of Europe for which statistics are available for the beginning of the year 1924, i.e., the United States, New Zealand and the three Australian states - New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland - there has been a decrease of 2.5 per cent in the number of cattle. The 80,860,000 head given, however, represents an increase over pre-war of 18.4 per cent of which 10,000,000 had occurred in the United States. Sheep showed a decrease of 2.4 per cent compared with last year and a decrease of 17.5 per cent compared with pre-war, the largest decrease in this instance being in the United States where the number fell from 49,719,000 in January, 1914, to 38,361,000 in January, 1924. The United States and New Zealand showed increases of 3 per cent and 2.2 per cent respectively over the preceding year. Sheep in the three Australian states decreased 7.3 per cent or from 64,340,000 last year to 59,661,000 this year.

THE LIVESTOCK SITUATION ABROAD, Cont'd.

The official estimate of the New South Wales autumn and winter lambing reveals a marked improvement over last year. The number of ewes mated was 11,502,000 and the probable markings are placed at 7,426,000 or 65 per cent, the best since 1911. It is predicted that the spring lambing will be most successful, as 3,301,000 are expected to be marked, representing 70 per cent of the ewes mated. This will be the highest proportion ever recorded for summer.

The Times of Argentina states that the prospects for the 1924 clip are not so brilliant as well-wishers of the country wish to believe. It says that there is little doubt but that packer killings of late years have considerably reduced the flocks, which were heavily sold for meat during the period of the big fall in wool prices which occurred during the first post-war months, and that an increase in the number of sheep is a matter of years. They believe, however, that the decline has been checked and that sheep are once more increasing in number. Recovery will be slow, but certain, largely because sheep breeding for wool has once more become profitable. The "frigorificos" are finding it more and more difficult to obtain sheep for killing. The clip may not show an increase this year, but they are not despairing of seeing very fair augmentation in the years to come.

Information has been received from the Union of South Africa to the effect that the mohair business is very quiet, almost entirely as a result of slack demand on the part of the United States. Prices for kids fell seriously during the last two weeks of June. This will mean a rather serious reduction in the annual income of mohair growers. There are numbers of former Angora goat breeders now farming with merino sheep, who must have a substantially better income than those farming with goats. Representations have been made to Bradford merchants that unless good prices are forthcoming for the new clip of mohair many producers will go in for wool growing.

a England and Wales, Germany, Belgium, Spain, France, Latvia, and Roumania.

AUGUST PORK SITUATION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Rapidly rising prices were the outstanding feature of the British pork situation during August. The upward movement occurred in spite of materially improved domestic supplies and large imports from Denmark, and is to be attributed to the strong situation in the United States, which was already being reflected in the United Kingdom in relatively short supplies of many American pork cuts. The demand for American hams, however, continued disappointing. Lard stocks at Liverpool showed a further increase at the end of the month over the previous, but demand continued good and prices moved up. Stocks of bacon, hams, and shoulders, although low, showed an increase over the previous month for the first time since the beginning of the year. While no official figures are available, trade information is to the effect that Danish slaughter continued at about the rate maintained in July.

Cables from the office of the American Agricultural Commissioner at Berlin also reveal a rapid improvement in prices of pork products in Germany. The large potato crop of this season and good prices for hogs will undoubtedly be of great benefit to German agriculture.

SURVEY OF CITRUS FRUIT SITUATION

Conditions having arisen in the citrus fruit industry which have possibilities of becoming a source of considerable concern to American producers, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics is at present engaged in a general survey of citrus fruit production and consumption. Both the foreign and domestic phases of the problem are being considered, but particular attention is being devoted to foreign production and consumption of citrus fruits. The American citrus industry must take into consideration actual and potential production abroad, and the competition which is being offered or may be offered by foreign production in the future.

AMERICAN TRADE IN CITRUS FRUITS.

Exports of citrus fruits from the United States have exceeded all previous records during the year ended June 30, 1924. Oranges have made up the largest share of the trade, with grapefruit and lemons following in the order named. Exports of oranges amounted to 2,591,808 boxes or nearly 30 per cent more than the greatest previous shipments of 2,000,000 boxes occurring in 1921. Our lemon exports of 227,672 boxes were lower than at any time during the past five years with the exception of last year. Grapefruit exports exceeded those of any previous year.

Canada, as usual, was by far our most important customer, and took the bulk of all our shipments. Canadian imports of oranges, in fact, were larger than our total exports in past years. Trade to the United Kingdom also improved with the exports of 80,094 boxes of oranges, an amount practically twice as large as during the previous record year, 1919. Shipments of oranges to other countries likewise increased in nearly every instance. Our exports of lemons, while larger than in the fiscal year 1923 were low in comparison with trade in recent years, chiefly because of smaller exports to Canada. Canada has doubled its imports of lemons from Italy in the last two years. The greater trade in grapefruit represented larger shipments generally, but mention should be made of an increased interest on the part of the British consuming public that promises much in the future.

American producers will be pleased to note a large decrease in American imports of lemons and grapefruit. Our lemons come almost entirely from Italy and our grapefruit from the West Indies.

ORANGES: EXPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES, YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1922 - 1924.

Exported to -	1922	1923	1924
	Boxes	Boxes	Boxes
Canada	1,531,364	1,674,105	2,334,329
New Zealand........	23,220	19,976	a/
United Kingdom.....	17,515	27,572	80,094
Australia..........	5	1	a/
Philippine Islands.	19,596	29,209	a/
Panama.............	842	865	a/
Other countries....	28,296	47,484	177,405
Total........	1,640,838	1,799,212	2,591,808

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.
a/ Included in "Other countries."

LEMONS: IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES BY MONTHS, NOVEMBER 1922-JUNE, 1924.
One box = 84 lbs.

Months.	1921-22	1922-23	1923-24
	Boxes	Boxes	Boxes
July...............	29	204,930	286,704
August.............	-	68,452	87,522
September..........	-	32,615	103,723
October............	-	51,356	37,149
November...........	29,581	89,384	30,112
December...........	12,713	79,914	18,637
January............	27,014	89,397	10,818
February...........	47,756	35,173	24,884
March..............	125,232 a/	194,882	18,284
April..............	105,720	137,247	21,928
May................	214,616	166,099	71,675
June...............	262,571	312,695	184,962
Total for year ending June 30 -		1,462,124	896,398

Compiled from Monthly Summaries of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

a/ Reported in value only.

LEMONS: IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF THE UNITED STATES,
YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1922 - 1924.
One box = 84 lbs.

Year ending June 30 -	Imported from: Italy	Cuba	Other countries	Total
	Boxes	Boxes	Boxes	Boxes
1922	a/ 789,729	---	a/ 5,136	a/ 794,865
1923	1,441,603	188	20,333	1,462,124
1924	*			896,397
	Exported to: Canada	China	Other countries	Total
1922	198,428	10,954	24,433	233,815
1923	126,899	9,126	22,822	158,847
1924				227,672

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

a/ January-June, 1922.

GRAPEFRUIT: IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF THE UNITED STATES,
YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1922 - 1924.

Year ending June 30 -	Imports		Exports	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Boxes	Dollars	Boxes	Dollars
1922	a/	588,872	b/ 140,229	b/ 456,007
1923	a/	643,452	252,134	830,738
1924.........	c/ 146,942	348,270	305,210	826,952

Compiled from Monthly Summaries of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

a/ Reported in value only prior to July 1, 1923.

b/ January 1 to June 30.

c/ 1 box = 80 lbs.

THE BRITISH FRUIT MARKET IN AUGUST.

California oranges were reported on August 1 by Edward A. Foley, the American Agricultural Commissioner at London, as sharing second place with Spanish fruit in that market. South African arrivals occupied first place and were expected to predominate in the mid-summer trade with Australia contributing in small quantities.

Supplies of apples on the first of the month were being drawn almost exclusively from Australia and New Zealand but interesting developments were being looked forward to with the arrival of the new season's American apples.

According to press notices forwarded by Mr. Foley, grapefruit is selling steadily, competing with bananas as a British breakfast dish. Hotels find themselves forced to furnish grapefruit in increasing quantities. Supplies are coming largely from the West Indies, but the growing popularity of the fruit speaks well for future demand from the United States. Australian oranges are reported as being kept at a moderate retail price. The Australian Government has put up $145,000. to guarantee against loss to growers.

In the middle of August, South Africa was reported as leading in oranges and grapefruit, with low prices ruling and supplies plentiful. Shipments from South Africa to date had amounted to 324,834 cases of citrus fruit, of which about 300,000 cases were oranges. American citrus fruits were retreating from the market, while oranges from Australia were making their appearance at Covent Garden, a shipment from South Australia being closely followed by another from the Western part. Lemons from Italy and Spain were reported as of good quality and moving at low prices.

American apples had again appeared on the London market in competition with Australian apples. The end of the Australian season was then at hand and American apples were expected to enjoy a good season. Early arrivals from the United States were from California and Virginia.

Pears from California had had some attention at Covent Garden market, but the bulk of the supplies of prime fruit was coming from France, and at reasonable prices. Peaches, most of them from South Africa, were reported to have wholesaled as high as 63¢ each, fancy pack. Loose fruit of good quality was available at much lower prices. Mr. Foley reports that native British eating and cooking apples are improving, but the qualities are by no means satisfactory to the market.

THE ITALIAN FRUIT SITUATION.

Normal weather conditions in Sicily this year contributed toward a good citrus crop. Shipments of winter lemons to America declined sharply, but unusually active demand on the Continent, especially in Germany, aided in maintaining high prices for both oranges and lemons. Germany, in fact, took more than one half of all oranges shipped between January 1 and March 31, 1924, and about 25% of all lemons. Shipments of "vendelli" or summer oranges began June 10 with a good demand prevailing, but as the season progressed there was a noticeable slackening in interest in the summer crop, especially in lemons. The growers and exporters were reported by George L. Brandt, American Consul at Messina, as being considerably depressed over the situation in August and an increase in pickings late in the month was not expected to result in much of an increase in trade activity. The American restriction on importations was one of the most important factors depressing trade.

Consul Brandt reports that the adoption of quarantine restrictions against Italian lemons by Australia added to the feeling of depression. Reports have come back to Messina of the destruction of fruit from that source because of diseased conditions, and the holding up of other shipments for disinfecting. Growers of the Messina district as a result have suggested reprisal action, pointing out that Australia exports to Italy about five times as much goods in value as they import from that country.

Prices quoted by Messina exporters for August shipments of lemons to New York c.i.f. per box of 300 - 360 crates, weight about 88 pounds, are from $2.75 to $3. Freight continues at about 45¢ per box from Messina to New York. Prices paid to growers in the Messina district July 21, 1924 were:

First quality, $3.89 to $4.32 per basket of about 1,040 lemons
Second quality, $2.38 to $2.59 per basket.

CITRUS IMPORT REGULATIONS IN AUSTRALIA

A Commonwealth Government proclamation on July 15, 1924, prohibited absolutely the importation of citrus fruits or plants into Australia. This order was modified by a second issued July 24, prohibiting the admission of citrus plants (except citrus fruits and pips) from any part of the world, and citrus fruits and citrus pips (imported as pips) from any part of the world in which the disease citrus canker or Japanese canker exists.

Special provision is made for citrus from the United States but only to that originating in either California or Arizona. The Proclamation provides that fruit from those two states will be accepted if a United States Government official certifies:

(a) that the fruit was grown in the state specified;
(b) that citrus canker does not exist in that state, and
(c) that the consignment is free from citrus canker and from all other diseases.

Importation of citrus fruits from all other countries is prohibited unless a certificate can be produced from the Department of Agriculture of the country of origin to the effect

(a) that the consignment is free from citrus canker;
(b) that citrus canker does not exist in the country of origin.

Shipments from permitted sources found to be contaminated are refused entry and all shipments, regardless of excellence of condition, must be fumigated. Reports from Italy mention serious losses entailed by Sicilian lemon exporters whose goods have suffered delay and loss through the new regulations. The Mediterranean Basin is reported to be relatively free from citrus canker, and Italian exporters accordingly suspect that the Australian procedures are in the nature of commercial rather than pathological protection of the domestic citrus industry in Australia. Of the producing areas in the United States, Florida is known to have fruit affected by citrus canker. Fortunately, that state has had no interest in the Australian market. The special dispensations of the Australian law in favor of California, therefore, effects no curtailment of the American trade in citrus with the Island Continent.

THE AMERICAN TARIFF AND SICILIAN BY-PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

American tariffs play a very significant part in the Sicilian citrus industry. A notable example has been the shifting of interest in the production of citrate of lime to the production of citric acid and concentrated juices, as the result of the imposition in 1923 of a tariff on imports of citrate of lime into the United States, while concentrated juices were left on the free list.

The Camera Agrumaria, the controlling interest in the citrate industry had reserves of 20,000 tons of their product on hand early in 1922, an amount sufficient under normal conditions to have supplied the export trade for about three years at the rate of a little over 6,000 tons a year. Heavy imports into the United States in anticipation of the tariff, however, reduced this quantity to a very low point, according to Mr. H. C. Maclean, Commercial Attache at Rome. With the tariff in effect only 3,000 tons were exported during 1923, and as a result a normal production raised stocks to 18,332 tons on November 30, 1923. This accumulation has resulted in Sicily that the large quantities bought in 1922 are about exhausted, and future demands for citrate of lime, in spite of the tariff, are expected to remove some of the surplus accumulated.

Leaving concentrated lemon juice on the free list has caused the Societa Aranella of Palerma to install vacuum pans for the preparation of concentrated juice for the American market as a substitute in the trade for citrate of lime. By improved methods this organization raised the ordinary citric acid content of concentrated juice from 45% to 50% compared with the 64% carried in citrate of lime. The result is that those interested are able to export in a different form almost as much of the essential elements as was carried in the citrate of former years. Up to June 11, 1924, 400 tons of concentrated juice had been exported, with the future of the industry dependent upon the action of the U. S. Congress.

In general, essential oils and other citrus by-products, and the products into which they are manufactured, must be considered as luxuries. Uncertain conditions in all the principal markets except the United States have been such as to discourage increased production. However, by careful supervision the quantities of most of the products available in Italy have been kept low enough to maintain high price levels, and general exports are described as satisfactory at the present time.

THE MECHANICAL EXTRACTION OF LEMON ESSENCE IN ITALY

A new machine for extracting essential oils from the skins of citrus fruit has been developed as the result of experiments in Italy, according to a report from W. Roderick Dorsey, American Consul at Catania. The machine is capable of handling the skins of 2,000 lemons per hour as compared with 2,000 to 3,000 lemons per day processed by a single hand operative, and accordingly has an output of eight pounds of oil in an eight hour day against two or three pounds secured through hand pressing. A thousand lemons ordinarily yield a half pound of oil.

Consul Dorsey states that previous efforts in mechanical oil extraction have invariably resulted in turning out a product inferior to that from hand processes, but that the new machine is satisfactory in this respect. Some further perfections must be effected, however, before the new machine will be ready for market.

COMPETITION OF SPANISH AND AMERICAN CITRUS FRUIT ABROAD

Oranges and lemons from Spain play a very minor part in the domestic citrus fruit trade of the United States. Imports of either form less than half of one per cent of our total imports of that commodity, in sharp contrast with our more liberal use of Italian lemons and West Indian grapefruit. Our purchases of Spanish lemons have been generally greater since the war than before but the total amount has not been enough to have any effect on our total import, or much effect on Spanish exports. Imports of oranges into the United States from Spain have also tended to be higher since the war than before. These increases, however, have been too slight to have any weight in offsetting the somewhat decreased purchases by France, Germany and other Continental countries.

American interest in Spanish citrus production, especially of oranges, lies in the competition offered by fruit from that source in European markets. Heretofore the cheaper Spanish fruit has always had a decided competitive advantage over the more expensive American article, but there is evidence that quality is coming to be more and more sought for in these products, particularly in the British market. While no steps should be left untaken in reducing costs, American efforts can without doubt be most advantageously centered upon placing the citrus fruit trade upon a quality basis. Foreign markets will take a considerable amount of high quality fruit even though prices are relatively higher than for Mediterranean varieties.

THE SPANISH CITRUS FRUIT INDUSTRY

Oranges rank high among the cash crops of Spain. No annual official statistics are compiled on this product. Occasional estimates are made by the agronomical Engineers of the various provinces, but as there is no definite census on which they can base their estimates or by which the estimates can be checked it is impossible to gauge their accuracy.

THE SPANISH CITRUS FRUIT INDUSTRY CONTINUED

Two such estimates put out by these engineers give some idea of the production in the period just preceding the war, and a post war period, probably about 1921.

AREA AND PRODUCTION OF ORANGES IN SPAIN INCLUDING THE CANARIES, EXCLUDING MELILIA.

	Unit	Pre-war	Post-war
Area of regular plantations	ha.	47,494	46,714
No. of trees on regular plantations	No.	14,672,803	14,227,492
Total numbers of trees	No.	14,850,925	14,710,240
Production	m. t.	839,529.8	807,811.1

Source: Ministerio de Fomento, Direccion General de Agricultura, Minas y Montes;
Pre-war: Avance Estadistico de la requeza que en Espana representa la produccion media anual de arboles y arbustos frutales, tuberculos, raices y bulbos. Resumen hechro por la Junta Consultiva Agronomica de las Memorias de 1910. Madrid, 1913.
Post-war: Avance Estadistico de la Produccion agricola en Espana, Resumen hecho por la Junta Consultiva Agronomica de las Memorias de 1922, Madrid, 1923.

These estimates indicate a slight decrease in orange production in recent years as compared to the pre-war period which is substantiated by the trade figures. Of this production over four-fifths is in the Levante region, chiefly in Valencia and Castellon. The rest is produced in the other Mediterranean regions.

Foreign trade statistics show the exports of 1922 to have been more than a fifth less than the average for the 1909-13 period, for 1921 about fifteen percent less, while for 1920 they were just about half the pre-war exports. The United States plays almost no part in Spanish orange trade.

ORANGE TRADE OF SPAIN. ANNUAL AVERAGE 1909-13, 1920, 1921, 1922 & 1923. EXPORTS BY COUNTRIES. a). EXCLUDING CANARIES AND MELILIA.

Country	Average 1909-13.	1920	1921	1922	1923
	metr. t.	metr. t.	metr. t.	metr. t.	metr. t.
United States	101	321	158		
Great Britain	236,230	203,843	277,722		
France	107,762	22,232	68,205		
Germany	94,744	1,560	-		
Holland	32,888	5,941	30,026		
Belgium	23,648	9,611	24,774		
Other countries	7,485	14,422	33,201		
Total	507,858	257,930	434,086	397,524	b(91,535)

a) No imports listed for most periods. b) Ten months only. January to October.
Source: See Table 1X, (Foreign Trade in Wheat).

SPANISH CITRUS FRUIT INDUSTRY CONTINUED

Lemons, the only other citrus crop grown to any extent in Spain, are of much less importance in Spain than oranges. Lemon production, according to estimates similar to those for oranges, has apparently declined somewhat as have oranges. Exports, on the other hand, have been about two or three times as great as before the war. The United States is of very slight importance as a market for Spanish lemons.

ESTIMATED LEMON PRODUCTION IN SPAIN
INCLUDING CANARIES, - EXCLUDING MELILIA.

	Unit	Pre-war	Post-war
Area of regular plantations	ha.	2,124	1,764
No. of trees on regular plantations	No.	599,105	438,260
Total number of trees	No.	739,062	624,588
Production	m. t.	35,154	29,812

LEMON TRADE OF SPAIN, EXPORTS BY COUNTRIES. a).
Annual Average 1909-13, 1920, 1921, 1922 and 1923.
EXCLUDING CANARIES AND MELILIA.

Country of destination	Average 1909-13	1920	1921	1922	1923
	metric tons	metr. t.	metr.t.	metr. t.	metr. t.
United States	9	272	-		
France	1,768	2,440	2,707		
Great Britain	808	3,831	2,400		
Germany	200	167	-		
Belgium	144	143	2,731		
Argentina	121	127	343		
Other countries	265	282	959		
Total exports	3,315	7,262	9,140	5,978	b(3,404)

a). No imports listed for most periods. b). Ten months only, Jan. to Nov.

Sources: See Table IX (Foreign Trade in Wheat).

CITRUS BY-PRODUCTS IN FRANCE

Attempts by certain American firms to market citrus by-products in France, particularly orange juice, have brought out some interesting points. H. S. Howlett, of the office of the American Commercial Attache at Paris reports the virtual failure so far of orange juice to gain a footing in competition with the popular and cheap native wines and other beverages.

Fruit extracts, including those of oranges and lemons, find their greatest use in France in the form of heavy syrups, used for flavoring various foodstuffs, and for bottling with carbonated water to use in mixing alcoholic drinks. So far, France as well as other Continental countries, has shown very little interest in the non-alcoholic fruit juices so much in demand in America and which bulk so large as a by-product of the citrus industry. To an American taste, European soft drinks utilizing fruit juices are of very inferior quality, especially from the point of view of flavor, and, it is not surprising therefore that Europeans do not take to their soft drinks. Any attempt at cultivating a European market for such products must first of all overcome a popular prejudice resulting from experience with an inferior doméstic product.

BRAZIL A POTENTIAL COMPETITOR IN CITRUS FRUITS

A potential competitor of the American citrus growers exists in the orange industry in the State of Bahia, Brazil. Oranges have been grown in that region for many years, and natural conditions are said to be favorable to a considerable expansion of production. The varieties of oranges produced in largest quantity are Bahia, Navels, Smooth Select, China, Secca, Tangerine, Cravo, and Native. The chief centers of production are Alagoinhas and Matta de S. Joao.

Reporting on the orange industry in his district, Mr. Homer Brett, American Consul at Bahia, points out that favorable conditions exist in the form of plentiful labor, cheap, good land, absence of an export tax and fast transportation to Europe and to Buenos Aires. The fruit ripens in April and harvesting continues through June and July. This would throw the fruit on the market at a season when it would not conflict with the American or Spanish crops.

The groves are preferably located on level land in red clay soils or other soils having a more or less sandy texture. It is found that trees on the levels thrive best. Land is cleaned usually by chopping and burning and is then spaded up. The soil is not treated with chemical fertilizers, but stable manure is used commonly. Not all growers know the value of manure, some of them possessing no sources of supply. Usually the manure is placed in a pile in the field and distributed in the tree furrows as needed.

BRAZIL A POTENTIAL COMPETITOR IN CITRUS FRUITS, CONT'D.

Nursery beds are begun in sheltered spots, the soil being hoed very fine with well-rolled manure worked into it. Seeds are planted usually in September. Having attained a suitable size, these nursery stocks are either grafted in the seed-bed with the cut healing before removal to the permanent row, or moved first and then grafted. Careful selection of scions is made to propagate the most desirable features of the particular variety. Stocks for clay lands are of the native orange growth, Persian lime being used in sandy soils. In established groves, where trees stand at about 16 feet apart, two weedings per year are the rule, with 3 or 4 among younger trees. All weeding is done with a hoe. Irrigation is unnecessary. Pruning is practiced after harvest, which consists mainly in removing parasitic growth and dead wood. Some planters at the same time scrape the tree trunks and wash them with a lime water mixture.

A good tree can produce 300 to 600 and more oranges with an average of 150 per tree at Alagoinhas and 100 at Bahia. Total production is put at 8,161,500 pieces annually, all of which is consumed locally.

There are many insect pests in addition to the formidable sauva ant, which cause serious damage to the Brazilian orange. Few growers have any method or equipment for combating these pests. However, every native feels that the Bahia orange is the best in the world. Credence is given that sentiment by the attempt of the United States Department of Agriculture to discover why it was that orange trees imported into the United States from Bahia have not been a success. The conclusion reached was the flattering one that the soil and climate of Bahia were better suited to oranges than that of America.

CANADIAN FRUIT GROWERS URGE HIGHER TARIFF.

Canadian small fruit growers are urging a higher tariff on their products with the idea of protecting the industry and their markets, reports the American Consul General at Montreal, Albert Halstead.

The agitation is due to conditions brought out at a recent meeting of Canadian pomologists and small-fruit growers, at which it was stated that the market for small-fruits and berries in Montreal and vicinity is completely dominated by shipments from the United States, and that up to July 31, Montreal alone had imported over a hundred cars of strawberries. Such fruits ripen much earlier in the United States than in Canada, and it is said that American shipments take the edge off the demand for the Canadian crop.

THE FRENCH DRIED PRUNE INDUSTRY.

The French production of dried prunes for 1924 is expected to total only some 12,000 short tons, against an estimated 35,000 short tons for 1923. As a result there will undoubtedly be a fair market in France for the American product during the coming year probably to the extent of six to eight thousand short tons.

During the 1922 season, with its extremely low yield, France imported some 13,000 short tons of California dried prunes. French production in 1923 cut down American contributions to the neighborhood of 3,000 short tons. While prunes represent a comparatively small portion of American export trade, such possibilities as are created by variations in French crops are very important to the American prune industry.

The history of the French prune industry since 1903 shows remarkable variations in yield resulting largely from weather conditions. The crop for the year 1905 is the largest on record, at 58,664 short tons. Omitting the war years, the lowest recorded production occurred in 1903 when 1,610 short tons were secured. The next lowest year came in 1922, at 2,352 short tons. Average pre-war production for the years 1903 to 1913 inclusive was 30,000 short tons. The post-war average 1919 to 1924, which includes the very low year of 1922 and the unofficial figures for 1923 and 1924, stands at 12,587 short tons, a reduction of some 56 per cent.

The Department of Lot-et-Garonne is expected to produce about 70 per cent of the total national yield, although production is estimated at only about 8,200 tons as compared with 24,800 in 1923.

GRAPEFRUIT IN THE ISLE OF PINES.

The Isle of Pines, a small island off the coast of Cuba, is the seat of a fairly important citrus fruit industry, and the raising of citrus fruits is its main business. A total of about 11,000 acres of citrus fruit trees are under cultivation. Bearing grapefruit groves account for 6,570 acres, and in addition there are 2,100 acres of grapefruit trees not yet bearing, 1,400 of bearing orange groves, and 400 acres of oranges not bearing.

The statistics of exports of grapefruit as shown by consular invoices for the past three seasons are as follows: in 1920 - 1921 exports of grapefruit to the United States totaled 176,802 crates; 1921-1922, 152,480 crates; and during 1922 - 1923, 229,621 crates. Shipments to Canada and England during the 1922-1923 season brought the total up to nearly 250,000 crates, a quantity larger than in any previous season.

While the bulk of the grapefruit crop has always been marketed in the United States, of late years a considerable amount has been sold in Canada and in Europe. The early fruit ripens in time for shipment between early in August and the end of October. Early fruit brings good prices because it comes on the market before Florida fruit is ready to ship. The entire shipping season embraces the period between early August and May of the year following.

GRAPEFRUIT IN THE ISLE OF PINES, Cont'd.

It is of interest to note that the industry has been developed almost entirely by American colonists who settled in the Isle of Pines shortly after the close of the Spanish-American war. The industry suffered a setback during the war period 1914 - 1918, and many Americans became discouraged and returned to the United States, but since 1918 economic conditions have greatly improved and the production of grapefruit now exceeds that of the pre-war period, owing chiefly to greater age of the trees. Improvement in economic conditions has not been sufficiently great, however, to cause any large influx of settlers or capital, although there is room for further expansion of the industry.

AMERICAN APPLES POPULAR IN NORWAY

In 1922 the United States exported to Norway 3355 short tons of fresh apples, and in 1923 an amount slightly in excess of that figure. The prospects for the 1924 season indicate an excellent demand for all varieties produced in the northern states, especially for those from the Hood River, Oregon, region.

As in other Scandinavian countries, the American apple is preferred in Norway over that from any other source. The Scandinavian group of nations collectively, present a market for American products worthy of cultivation and expansion, with particular attention to the marketing methods in favor there. S. Bertrand Jacobson, American Consul at Christiania, Norway, states that apples for shipment to Norway should be packed in cases. Barrelled apples are not as acceptable as the box pack, although more were shipped in barrels last season than in 1922. Baldwins sold last year at about $6.00 per barrel c.i.f. Christiania; Winesaps at about $7.00 per barrel; and New York Imperials at $5.50 per barrel. Cased apples moved at $2.15 last season for small sizes, and $2.40 to $2.60 for larger fruit, all f.o.b. New York. Varieties handled were Winesaps, Newton Pippins and Ortleys. New crop apples for 1924 opened at about $2.40, but this quotation is expected to go lower as supplies increase.

Most apple importations into Norway are made by importers who purchase outright and distribute to wholesalers and retailers. A few apples are imported direct by the larger grocery houses. The Consul advises that quotations should be made f.o.b. New York for direct shipment to Norway and that, if possible, northwestern growers should avoid shipping via the Panama Canal, since the longer journey enhances the risk of deterioration en route.

HOGS AND PORK PRODUCTS: INDICES OF FOREIGN SUPPLIES, DEMAND AND PRICE

Country and Item	Unit	July 1909-13 Average	August 1909-13 Average	August 1923	July 1924	August 1924
United Kingdom:						
Production -						
Fat pigs at representative English markets...	Thousands			36	29	36
Pigs bought for curing in Ireland............	"	a 94	a 101	57	77	91
Supplies of Brit. & Irish pork at London Central Markets.........	Thousand pounds			1,429	1,788	2,146
Trade -						
Imports -						
Ham and bacon.........	"	53,538	55,227	99,861	98,448	93,520
Lard..................	"	17,761	14,168	29,848	23,990	26,251
Exports -						
Bacon, hams & shoulders from U.S. to U. K.	"	26,523	26,207	44,535	34,658	
Lard from U.S. to U. K.		13,275	11,288	21,342	21,189	
Stocks -						
Hams, bacon & shoulders Liverpool end of month	Thousand boxes			17	16	20
Lard, refined, Liverpool, end of month....	Thousand pounds			6,637	8,165	9,858
Prices at Liverpool -	Dollars per 100 lbs.					
Wiltshire sides (Amer.)				16.59	15.32	19.99
Wiltshire sides (Can.)	"	15.43	15.67	19.75	17.61	21.05
Wiltshire sides (Dan.)	"	16.56	16.60	24.43	21.95	24.59
Lard, Prime Steam Western...............	"	11.86	12.10	12.86	13.56	15.19
Denmark:						
Production -						
Pigs killed in export slaughter houses......	Thousands	a 203	a 198	299	c 300	c 300
Trade -						
Exports of bacon.......	Thousand pounds	b 22,285	b 24,394	31,392	d 37,820	d 39,159
Germany:						
Production -						
Receipt of hogs at 14 cities................	Thousands	285	301	70	218	
Slaughter of hogs at 36 centers...........	"	336	340	64	242	

a/ 1911 - 1914 average. b/ 1913 c/ Preliminary estimate d/ British imports from Denmark.

HOGS AND PORK PRODUCTS: INDICES OF FOREIGN SUPPLIES, DEMAND AND PRICE, CONTINUED

Country and Item	Unit	July 1909-13 Average	August 1909-13 Average	August 1923	July 1924	August 1924
Germany, continued:						
Trade -						
Imports -	Thousand					
Bacon	pounds	202	203	6,121		
Lard	"	14,678	14,080	17,702		
Exports -						
Bacon to Germany, Belgium & Netherlands from U. S.	"	928	1,273	10,635	4,435	
Lard to Germany, Belgium & Netherlands from U. S.	"	12,840	15,903	38,606	40,346	
Prices -	Dollars per					
Lard, Hamburg	100 lbs.			19.30	14.52	a 16.45
Margarine, Berlin	"			10.20	11.99	a 12.90
Hogs, live weight, Berlin	"	11.71	12.31	15.01	12.49	a 15.50
Potatoes, feeding, Berlin	"	.35	.33			
Barley, feeding, Leipzig	"	1.71	1.72			
United States:						
Production -						
Inspected slaughter	Thousands	2,311	1,964	3,556	4,114	
Trade -						
Exports of bacon, hams and shoulders	Thousand pounds	31,724	33,018	69,194	53,769	
Exports of lard	"	33,569	35,431	83,758	86,788	
Stocks -						
Lard in cold storage end of month	"	b 154,632	b 128,844	115,860	149,672	124,552
Prices -	Dollars per					
Hogs, Chicago	100 lbs.	8.00	8.00	7.65	7.68	9.38
Lard, prime steam, Chicago	"	10.75	10.89	12.83	13.65	15.94

a Preliminary figure.
b 1919-1923 average.

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